

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10

EB-08 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 TRSE-00 OIC-02 /131 W

-----054975 101143Z /17

P 101100Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5905

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 1129

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC, PARIS FOR USOECD

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, UN, ECOSOC

SUBJ: OVERVIEW MECHANISM (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE ESTABLISHED

UNDER UNGA RESOLUTION 32/174): ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION

CONCLUDES ON POSITIVE NOTE

REF: A) USUN 606 B) STATE 60178

1. WE HAVE DISCUSSED RESULTS FIRST MEETING UN OVERVIEW COMMITTEE WITH PHILIPPE LEVY, DIV OF COMMERCE, DEPT OF PUBLIC ECNOMY, WHO PARTICIPATED.

2. SWISS WERE SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTED WITH RESULTS THIS MEETING AND VIEW PROSPECTS FOR COMMITTEE RATHER PESSIMISTICALLY. THEY SAY OECD COUNTRIES WERE UNABLE OBTAIN MOST OF THEIR AGREED OBJECTIVES AND ARE SKEPTICAL OF ASSURANCES THAT COMMITTEE WILL NOT PRE-EMPT OR INTERFERE WITH NEGOTIATIONS  
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IN OTHER FORUMS. THEY ARE INCLUDED BELIEVE THAT LDCS WILL USE THIS DEVICE AS OFTEN AS THEY CAN, CALLING AS MANY MEETINGS AS POSSIBLE AS ANOTHER POINT OF PRESSURE ON DCS IN A CONTINUATION OF THE SALAMI TACTICS WHICH HAVE, IN LDC VIEW, LED TO A SERIES OF CONCESSIONS BY DCS.

3. SWISS FEEL THAT TWO MEETINGS IN 1978 WOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH AND THAT G-77 WILL CONTINUE TO TRY TO FORCE AS MANY MINISTERIAL LEVEL MEETINGS AS THEY CAN. IN ABSENCE, LEVY SAID, OF ANY COORDINATED DC STRATEGY IT WILL BE DIFFICULT FOR DCS TO RESIST LDC DEMANDS.

4. SWISS WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT ONLY ONE DAY OF MAY MEETING WILL BE DEVOTED TO REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT (AGENDA ITEM 1).

5. PRESENT SWISS INTENTION IS TO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE AND CONTRIBUTE WHATEVER THEY CAN TO A POSITIVE RESULT, WHILE WAITING TO SEE HOW ATMOSPHERE DEVELOPS. IF COMMITTEE BECOMES FORUM FOR CONFRONTATION AND PASSAGE OF UN-REALISTIC RESOLUTIONS THEY MAY RECONSIDER DECISION TO PARTICIPATE.

6. SWISS HAVE NOT BEGUN TO DEVELOP THEIR INSTRUCTIONS FOR MAY MEETING. LEVY SAID HE WILL URGE, WITHIN SWISS GOVT, MEETING OF UNCTAG GROUP B HIGH-LEVEL AND RESTRICTED PREPARATORY MEETING AT OECD PRIOR TO MAY MEETING IN HOPE THAT DCS MIGHT PRESENT A MORE COORDINATED POSITION AT THAT MEETING ON AGENDA ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED AND CONFIDENTIAL

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ON AGENDA FOR SECOND MEETING.

7. THIS CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE PRIOR TO RECEIPT REFTEL B. OUTLINE, ETC, HAS BEEN PASSED TO SWISS, WHO WERE ENCOURAGED BY THIS EFFORT ON OUR PART TO CONSULT AND COORDINATE. THEY PROMISED REACTION MAR 13 AT LATEST, AND SAID INFO WILL PROVIDE VERY USEFUL FOCUS FOR THEIR DISCUSSIONS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014